

Message Text

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44

ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04

ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /097 W

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R 281020Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9221

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 1644

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN EGEN EC

SUBJ: CONSULTATIONS WITH GOE ON USG PROPOSED ECONOMIC REFORMS AT
7TH SPECIAL SESSION OF UNGA

REF: STATE 041392

1. SUMMARY: CALL WAS MADE ON GOE OFFICIAL TO INFORM GOE OF
U.S. INITIATIVES TOWARD A NEW WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER. POINTS
MADE WERE WELL RECEIVED AND UNDERSTOOD. ECUADOR'S EXCLUSION
FROM GSP, BASED ON OPEC MEMBERSHIP, CURRENTLY PRECLUDES
PUBLIC SUPPORT OF U.S. GOV ACTIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBASSY HAS DISCUSSED IN GENERAL TERMS ON SEVERAL OCCA-
SIONS AT HIGH LEVELS OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY THE PROPOSALS
OF THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC REFORMS THAT WERE PUT FORTH
BY THE USG AT THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNGA. BECAUSE
OF THE STRIDENCY WITH WHICH GOE OFFICIALS AT THAT TIME WERE
UNIFORMLY PROTESTING ECUADOREAN EXCLUSION FROM THE GSP OF THE US.
TRADE ACT, HOWEVER, DETAILED ORAL PRESENTATIONS ON THE USG'S
PROPOSALS WERE NOT MADE. ON FEB. 26 AN EMBASSY OFFICER CALLED
ON ROQUE CANADAS, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF THE MINISTRY, TO DISCUSS IN DETAIL THE PRO-
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POSED REFORMS AND PROGRESS MADE TO DATE, AS OUTLINED IN

REFTEL.

3. CANADAS WAS VERY AMENABLE AND WELL-INFORMED ON THE IMF REVISIONS MADE IN JAMAICA. HE WAS AWARE OF THE INITIATIVES TAKEN AT THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION AND SEEMED APPRECIATIVE OF THE USG'S PRAGMATIC APPROACH.

4. THE GSP HAS NO BENEFIT FOR ECUADOR SINCE IT IS EXCLUDED BECAUSE OF OPEC MEMBERSHIP. CANADAS CLEARLY REITERATED ECUADOR'S OPPOSITION TO EXCLUSION BUT IN A DISCUSSION OF U.S. DOMESTIC POLITICS INDICATED HIS UNDERSTANDING OF REASONS FOR ENACTMENT OF EXCLUSION. HE ALSO EXPRESSED PESSIMISM ABOUT RAPID PROGRESS BEING MADE TO REMOVE THE EXCLUSION WITHIN THE U.S. CONGRESS DURING AN ELECTION YEAR. HIS KNOWLEDGE OF U.S. LEGISLATIVE/EXECUTIVE RELATIONS WAS GOOD.

5. CANADAS STATED THAT HE SENSED AN EVOLUTION IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S ATTITUDE TOWARD ECUADOR--THAT OF REALIZING THAT ECUADOREANS ARE CAPABLE AND SENSITIVE PEOPLE. HE CRITICIZED OTHER DEPARTMENTS OF THE EXECUTIVE, NOTABLY TREASURY AND AGRICULTURE, FOR LOOKING ONLY AT CURRENT STATISTICS AND NOT AT OUR TWO COUNTRIES' LONG-RUN MUTUAL INTERESTS. HE STRESSED THE DESIRE OF THE GOE TO MAINTAIN THE CLOSE TRADITIONAL TIES EXISTING BETWEEN ECUADOR AND THE U.S.

6. CANADAS REQUESTED THAT THE EMBASSY OFFICER PROVIDE HIM IN WRITING THE POINTS MADE DURING THE CONVERSATION, PARTICULARLY INFORMATION ON THE IMF REFORMS PROMOTED BY THE U.S. HE STATED HIS INTENT TO INCLUDE THE INFORMATION IN A BRIEFING REPORT HE WAS PREPARING FOR THE SUBSECRETARY OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TRIP TO THE U.S. AN AIDE MEMOIRE WAS PREPARED FOR HIS USE.

7. COMMENT: ECUADOR'S STRONG REACTION TO EXCLUSION FROM THE GSP UNDER THE U.S. TRADE LAW, WHICH IS ONE OF THE MEASURES WE TOUT AS AN EXAMPLE OF ACTS THE USG IS TAKING TO HELP DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, PREVENTS GOE OFFICIALS FROM WARM ENDORSEMENT OF THE USG'S PROPOSALS PUT FORTH AT THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNGA. THE CONVERSATION WITH CANADAS
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AND OTHER OFFICIALS DEMONSTRATES THE GOE'S AWARENESS AND APPRECIATION OF THE USG PROPOSALS. WE CAN EXPECT LITTLE PRAISE FOR THE PROPOSALS AND PROGRESS TOWARD THEIR REALIZATION, HOWEVER, UNTIL ECUADOR IS GRANTED ACCESS TO GSP.
BREWSTER

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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